

# **MICHIGAN DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT BOARD**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**March 20, 2015**

**\*\*\* Approved \*\*\***

### **Members Present:**

Dr. Cris Sullivan, Chair  
Hon. E. Libby Pollard Hines  
Jacque Schafer

### **Members Absent:**

Sgt. Yvonne Brantley  
Jeffrie Cape  
Jim Fink  
Hon. Jeffrey Sauter

### **Staff Present:**

Patsy Baker  
Debi Cain, Executive Director  
Donna Cornwell  
Carol Hackett Garagiola  
Julie Giddings  
Sarah Heuser  
Gail Krieger  
Mary Lovik  
Sandra Pilgrim-Lewis  
Karen Porter  
Lore Rogers  
LaShawn Thurman, Board Secretary  
Joyce Wright

### **Guests:**

Kathy Hagenian – MCEDSV  
Andrea Perteet – Lighthouse Path  
Beth Philo – AWARE, Inc.  
Mary Pollock – Michigan NOW

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Chair C. Sullivan convened the March 20, 2015 Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board meeting at the Library of Michigan – Lake Superior Room – Lansing, Michigan at 2:09 p.m. Introductions were made and a welcome extended to guests.

### **BOARD CONSENT**

Review of agenda; no quorum to approve the February 20, 2015 meeting minutes.

## **CHAIR'S REPORT**

C. Sullivan stated that the meeting would proceed despite the lack of a quorum. We were aware of two excused absences anticipated this month and also had two last minute unanticipated absences.

C. Sullivan reviewed and discussed the new, proposed MDHHS organizational chart and was deeply concerned to see where it appears the Board is located. The MDSVPTB is a unique and separate entity and touches all areas of DHHS, not just one category. L. Hines stated that the Board has and should report directly to the Director of DHHS or at least the Chief Deputy Director. All Board members present unanimously agreed that the MDSVPTB should be situated on the organizational chart to reflect it is not a department of DHHS, but a separate entity, legislatively mandated, that reports directly to the Director so the voices and concerns of victims and their children are not lost. Board members felt so strongly that they asked Debi Cain to meet soon with the new Director, Nick Lyons about the situation.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – GENERAL OVERVIEW OF WORK TO DATE**

D. Cain indicated that several staff members had updates to share.

C. Hackett Garagiola informed the Board that back in October, Channel 4 News in Detroit dedicated a day of news programming to "DV Day" in which Board staff along with staff from surrounding domestic violence programs assisted in providing information, running web-chats and answering calls on a crisis line for victims of domestic violence. As a result, Channel 4 News won the Michigan Association of Broadcaster's Award for best news series on the DV piece.

G. Krieger provided an update on the legislative mandate under the Sexual Assault Victim's Access to Justice Act to create a sample victim notice card and a handout about DNA testing results for victims. The draft notice card and handout has been reviewed by a multi-disciplinary review committee. In addition, the Sexual Assault Model Policy working group is planning to release the final Sexual Assault Model Policy at the beginning of April.

G. Krieger informed the Board that Oakland County Prosecutor's Office agreed to assist MDSVPTB with piloting the first Jurisdictions of Excellence advanced sexual assault training for prosecutors.

G. Krieger provided an update on the new webinar series on the recently passed sexual assault legislation and the implementation of the legislation. The first one was an overview of the topic of new laws and attended by 80-90 participants. The second one was on implementation of health care systems response and attended by 90 participants. The next webinar will be April 20<sup>th</sup> and will be focused on victim's rights.

D. Cain and L. Rogers will be meeting with MSP Colonel Etue to schedule the first meeting of the newly legislated Sexual Assault Evidence Kit Tracking and Reporting Commission by late spring or early summer.

J. Wright provided an update on the first in a series of Child Welfare University webinars developed by Board staff at the request of our DV programs. Board staff surveyed our DV programs and the most requested topics were confidentiality and CPS procedures. S. Heuser stated that the next webinar will be on April 14<sup>th</sup> on the topic of child welfare processes and will be facilitated by Colin Parks, Child Welfare Manager. K. Porter added that the participants

appreciated the duty to report training and provided feedback that the training would be great for new staff. The evaluations indicated that the information was well received and participants thought it was a good webinar.

### **Legislative Review**

M. Lovik provided an update on the following House bills, which the Board members present discussed:

- HB 4176, which would authorize courts to issue orders to dismiss criminal charges and expunge or destroy criminal history records in cases where a complaining witness recants allegations against the accused before trial.
- HB 4137, to establish standards for probation terms and sanctions for probation violations/attempted violations.
- HB 4138, to establish standards for release on parole and sanctions for parole violations.

M. Lovik provided an update on a request from Sen. Warren's staff to assist in developing legislation regarding school board policies responding to dating violence.

D. Cain indicated that the contract has been signed between DHS and David Mandel & Associates, Inc. for the Safe and Together Model Child Welfare Training.

D. Cain stated that she, C. Hackett Garagiola and L. Rogers will be attending the BISCMI conference in May.

D. Cain provided an update of her upcoming travels in April and May. D. Cain will be attending the VAWA (Violence Against Women Act) STOP (Services, Trainings, Officers, Prosecutors) administrator's meeting along with L. Jump who will be representing tribal communities. L. Jump and D. Cain will be presenting at the STOP meeting on the Board's collaboration with the tribes. D. Cain will also be attending the FVPSA (Family Violence Prevention Service Act) meeting in Dallas, TX. Also, D. Cain, T. Martinez and J. Giddings will be attending the CAC (Child Advocacy Center) conference.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

M. Pollock announced that Michigan NOW will be having their annual conference at UM-Flint campus on Saturday, May 30, 2015.

K. Hagenian from MCEDSV voiced her concerns about the location of the Board on the new MDHHS organizational chart and stressed the importance of the Board's position being higher profile and more visible within the department. K. Hagenian spoke of the Board's enabling legislation and the duties of the Board as advocates in so many areas within the department. K. Hagenian also thanked the Board for their support of the BISCMI conference and providing scholarships so that advocates can be present and have a voice in the room.

**The meeting ended at 3:56 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,  
LaShawn Thurman